

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) In a distributed computing environment that typically uses a single distributed transaction coordinator to monitor changes to files on a per logical system volume basis, a system-series of computer programs with computer executable instructions within one or more computer storage medium used to provide a plurality of independent resource managers that operate with respect to transactions, thereby acting as separate units within the volume in order to ensure that operations to one database within the volume do not affect operations of other databases or users of the volume, the series of computer programs comprising:

a logical volume of a file system that includes a plurality of resources among a distributed system, wherein one or more of the plurality of resources includes a resource manager, which is an object that participates in a transaction and provides a subsystem that implements a transaction-protected resource; and

a plurality of resource managers maintained on the file system volume, each resource manager independent from one another and having associated transactional metadata and a collection of associated files, wherein the transactional metadata is maintained based on a scope of control set for each of the plurality of resource managers by defining a collection of files or resources based on one or more of a directory hierarchy, a file extension, a file type, a timestamp, a file size, or a tag within the files for which the particular resource manager is responsible in order to allow various options offering different levels of performance, reliability, feature availability, and manageability on a per-resource basis rather than a per volume basis.

2. (Currently Amended) The system-series of computer programs of claim 1 wherein at least one resource manager comprises properties that differ from properties of another resource manager.

3. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 1 wherein at least one resource manager comprises transactional file system metadata that differ from transactional file system metadata of another resource manager.

4. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 1 wherein one of the resource managers contains files associated with a first database, and wherein another of the resource managers contains files associated with a second database.

5. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 1 wherein the file system maintains a volume control data structure associated with a set containing at least one resource manager control data structure.

6. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 1 further comprising a mechanism in the file system for discovering a resource manager control data structure associated with a file data structure.

7. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 1 wherein the file system maintains a first data structure having data identifying at least one resource manager control data structure.

8. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 7 wherein each file in the collection includes a reference to data maintained in the first data structure to identify a resource manager control data structure for that file.

9. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 1 further comprising an open file object on the volume, wherein the file system maintains a file control data structure corresponding to the open file object, the file control data structure including a reference to a resource manager control data structure that corresponds to a resource manager to which the file is associated.

10. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 9 wherein the file control data structure includes data that indicates that the open file object comprises the resource manager.

11. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 9 wherein the data is persisted in a record in a file system table, the record corresponding to the file.

12. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 1 wherein the file system includes a set of functions for interfacing with the resource manager.

13. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 12 wherein one function creates a new resource manager.

14. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 12 wherein one function starts a resource manager.

15. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 1 wherein each resource manager corresponds to a directory hierarchy, and wherein the collection of associated files comprises files logically under that directory hierarchy.

16. (Currently Amended) The series of computer programs system of claim 1 wherein associated transactional metadata includes a log file.

17. (Currently Amended) In a distributed computing environment that typically uses a single distributed transaction coordinator to monitor changes to files on a per logical system volume basis, a method of associating a file object with a resource manager in a system that includes a plurality of independent resource managers that operate with respect to transactions, thereby acting as separate units within the volume in order to ensure that operations to one database within the volume do not affect operations of other databases or users of the volume, the method comprising:

separating a volume into a plurality of resource managers, each resource manager associated with transaction metadata, which is maintained based on a scope of control set for each of the plurality of resource managers by defining a collection of files or resources based on a directory hierarchy for which the particular resource manager is responsible in order to allow various options offering different levels of performance, reliability, feature availability, and manageability on a per-resource basis rather than a per volume basis;

receiving a request to open a file system object associated with a resource manager;

creating a file control block for the file system object;

determining whether the file control block references a resource manager control block, and if not, discovering a resource manager control block corresponding to the file system object and associating the file control block with the discovered resource manager control block by storing a pointer in the file control block that identifies the discovered resource manager control block, the resource manager responsible for the file system object, or both.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein discovering the resource manager control block includes creating a resource manager control block.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein associating the file control block with the discovered resource manager control block comprises writing a pointer into the file control block that points to the resource manager control block.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein discovering the resource manager control block includes determining whether the resource manager control block exists, and if not,

creating the resource manager control block, and modifying the file control block to include an association with the resource manager control block.

21. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein discovering the resource manager control block includes locating a file control block of a parent file that is associated with the resource manager control block.

22. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein discovering the resource manager control block includes locating a reference to a table location containing resource manager control block data, and using the reference to obtain a pointer to the resource manager control block.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein locating the reference to the table location comprises reading a header of the file object.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22 further comprising maintaining a table including the table location in a volume control block.

25. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein each resource manager corresponds to a subdirectory in the file system, and wherein the file system object is logically associated with the subdirectory.

26. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein at least one resource manager is associated with a database, and further comprising, performing a transaction that includes at least one operation by the database and at least one operation by the file system.

27. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable-storage-medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 17.

28.—44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently Amended) In a distributed computing environment that typically uses a single distributed transaction coordinator to monitor changes to files on a per logical system volume basis, a method or providing a plurality of independent resources managers that operate with respect to transactions, thereby acting as separate units within the volume in order to ensure that operations to one database within the volume do not affect operations of other databases or users of the volume, the method comprising:

separating a file system volume into a plurality of transactional resource managers that provide transactional services, wherein each of the transactional resource managers maintain transactional metadata based on a scope of control set for each of the plurality of resource managers by defining a collection of files or resources for a particular transactional resource manager based on one or more of a directory hierarchy, a file extension, a file type, a timestamp, a file size, or a tag within the files for which the particular transactional resource manager is responsible in order to allow various options offering different levels of performance, reliability, feature availability, and manageability on a per-resource basis rather than a per volume basis; and

based on the scope of control set for a selected resource manager, performing a function on one or more files or resources with respect to a-the selected resource manager, the resource managers being independent of one another such that the function is performed independently of any other resource manager.

46. (Original) The method of claim 45 further comprising, receiving a request to perform the function.

47. (Original) The method of claim 46 wherein receiving the request comprises receiving an application programming interface call.

48. (Original) The method of claim 45 wherein the function corresponds to a backup operation of at least some of the files of a resource manager.

49. (Original) The method of claim 45 wherein the function corresponds to a restore operation of at least some of the files of a resource manager.

50. (Original) The method of claim 45 wherein the function corresponds to a roll forward to a point in time operation.

51. (Original) The method of claim 45 wherein the function corresponds to a crash recovery operation.

52. (Original) The method of claim 45 wherein the function corresponds to a redo phase of a recovery operation.

53. (Original) The method of claim 52 further comprising, performing the function at least one other time.

54. (Original) The method of claim 45 wherein the function corresponds to an undo phase of a recovery operation.

55. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 45.

56.—57. (Canceled)